

Current Status – ESSC Project

December 5, 2007

The Enterprise Systems Services Centers (ESSC) Project is moving forward. Recent efforts have focused on two crucial “start-up tasks”:

1. The design process began with kick-off and initial data gathering December 3 and 4. The architecture firm and data center consultant team worked with ITSD staff on initial scoping of the Helena and Eastern Montana ESSC facilities. Additional information will be provided to the design team next week and they will return to Helena for additional sessions before Christmas. Agencies will be asked to discuss their requirements in an information gathering session. Requirement definition and a conceptual design report are expected February 1.
2. Site selection work continues for the **Eastern Montana ESSC** site. Clarification of some telecommunications cost for the Forsyth alternative is being sought. In view of the significant public interest in the site selection, we are arranging for public comment opportunities, including written and email comments and public participation meetings in the candidate communities in early January.
3. We have done some work on the **Helena site** selection. Engineering requirements imposed by the city have been received by the civil engineers. We will review those requirements and resume discussions with MDT regarding the potential sites shortly.
4. We are working on submission of an application for a FEMA “Pre-Disaster Mitigation” grant. If successful, it would help defray the cost of the Eastern Montana facility.

Current Status – Network Expansion Project

The Network Expansion Project is moving forward. Recent efforts have focused on three crucial areas:

1. Stakeholder Committee approved. Wes Old Coyote will be the chair.
2. Network Services RFP responses were received from Bresnan and Qwest. Assessment of the response details is just beginning.
3. Project documents, required for release of funds, have been completed and we are awaiting review by the Budget Office for actual release of funds. ITPRs submitted for Network Management Tools, Fiber Expansion, and Non-State DMZ. ITPR for Redundant Internet Portals scheduled for week of 12/17 and ITPR for remote site upgrades waiting on Transport Services RFP evaluation and contract.

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